during the last Budget Session that final orders on the report of the Special Finance Committee would be passed early in Chingam 1105;

(b) if so, what are the special reasons for not passing final orders though it is already Thulam 1105;

(c) at what stage is the consideration of the same now and when will it be published?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) The statement then made was:—"The matter will not be delayed further than the commencement of the next year".

(b) The consideration is not completely finished.

(c) Almost in the concluding stage. No time-limit can be specified.

148. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it was not stated in the last Budget Session of the Council on behalf of the Government that the Government would pass orders on the Special Finance Committee Report in the month of Chingam last and what is the reason for not carrying it out?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Vide answer to question No. 147.

Reduction of Travelling Allowance.

149. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform:—

(a) whether any step has been taken by the Government with reference to the reduction of the high rate of travelling allowance granted especially to the superior officers of the Government service, the necessity of which had been pointed out during the first Budget Session of the first Council by many of the non-official Members of the Legislative Council; and if not, (b) what is the reason for not taking any effective action so far with reference to this matter?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—(a) and (b). The question was referred to the Special Finance Committee and their proposals in this direction are under the consideration of the Government.

Increase of pay to low-paid clerks.

150. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform:—

(a) whether any effective action has been taken by the Government to increase the pay of the low-paid clerks and others in Government service and if so,

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